

From: David Grant
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 3:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am writing to you today, giving official notice of my objection to the current DOJ anti trust settlement with Microsoft.

As a small business owner and software developer I strongly urge you to reconsider your settlement. Microsoft is a successful company not because their products are superior in quality, but because Mr. Gates and his associates are excellent salesman.

These salesman are selling the United States government into a shitty deal.

For years, Microsoft's operating system alone grew to monopolistic power because of exclusive agreements with hardware vendors that eliminated any chance other competitors in that market had. The emergence of the Internet and the browser led to a weak but understandable argument that Microsoft intended to use 'brute force' in the business world to eliminate its competitor.

While I am all for the American way, and all for free trade and freedom of commerce, I believe along with many intelligent, educated professionals that the American way is now threatened by this settlement.

This settlement will bind the United States government to a monopoly that should not exist, a monopoly that already hinders free trade and creativity.

Being Microsoft Certified myself, I will leave you with this thought; Microsoft builds software for the lazy IT employee. While many people may be employed as IT professionals, these IT people are short minded and lacking pertinent knowledge. The arrogance this combination breeds; stupid people making good money, establishes security risks.

At this point in time, the last thing the United States government needs is arrogant uneducated individuals at the helm of all the critical data in this country.

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